

# **NEWS RELEASE**

### For Immediate Release:

Monday, December 4, 2000

## FLU SHOT UPDATE

Several flu clinics have been scheduled as a result of the arrival of additional vaccine. The Monroe County Flu Coalition has been meeting regularly to plan for the best use of the limited amount of flu vaccine that has been available to date. Highest risk individuals have been given priority and thousands of doses of vaccine have been voluntarily re-distributed to nursing homes and physician's offices by coalition organizations.

Clinics will be conducted, as follows:

### **Monroe County Health Department:**

• Sat, Dec. 9, Monroe County Health Department, 111 Westfall Rd, 9 a.m. – Noon

#### **Wegmans sponsored:**

- Mon, Dec. 11, Greece Town Hall, Long Pond Rd., 9 a.m. 2 p.m. & 3 p.m. 7 p.m.
- Tues, Dec. 12, Parma Town Hall, 1300 Hilton-Parma Rd., 9 a.m. 4 p.m.
- Wed, Dec. 13, Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, 141 Adams St., 10 a.m. 4 p.m.
- Thurs, Dec. 14, Jewish Community Center, 1200 Edgewood Ave., 9 a.m. 4 p.m.
- <u>NOTE:</u> Clinics continue to be for high-risk individuals until further notice. If attendance by high-risk people decreases, clinics held at Wegmans <u>may</u> be opened up to people over the age of 18. Pregnant women and children will **ONLY** be immunized at the Health Department.
- Flu has been identified in Monroe County. Data gathered over the past 18 years indicates that the flu generally peaks between December-March. Flu has peaked over the past 18 years as follows: four times in December, four times in January, seven times in February and three times in March.
- Health officials recommend that people ill with respiratory symptoms avoid places such as the workplace, hospitals and nursing homes to prevent exposing others. Thorough and frequent hand washing is strongly recommended during flu season.

Flu is a respiratory illness that is spread easily from person to person. Symptoms include rapid onset of fever, sore throat, muscle aches, chills and headache. Approximately 20,000 people die from flu or its complications each year in the United States.

Residents may call a recorded information line for the locations of flu shot clinics at: 274-6189.

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For more information, contact: Communications and Special Events at 428-2380, or visit us on the web at www.co.monroe.ny.us